

African Birding

John H. Fanshawe

Résumé: Un bref aperçu de l'infrastructure ornithologique des 61 pays et archipels couverts par le ABC est présenté. Dans plus de la moitié des cas, suffisamment de renseignements sont disponibles pour permettre aux intéressés de joindre la structure locale, de se procurer les 'checklists', etc. En annexe l'on trouvera des listes de sociétés, de publications et de musées, ainsi que des endroits où, et des personnes à qui sousmettre des observations. Des renseignements supplémentaires corrigeant les erreurs éventuelles et améliorant cet aperçu sont les bienvenus.

The main purpose of this paper is to introduce African Bird Club members to the increasingly lively birding community Africa-wide. In so doing, it aims to help everyone actively contribute data, resources and enthusiasm, while enjoying their birding more on the ground.

The paper can only offer a snap-shot for each country, but the bulletin will update accounts regularly through the news and comment sections, and any information members can provide to improve the material available will be welcomed. African birding is unevenly spread with active groups in some countries and virtually no activity at all in others. In any country, resident and visiting birders can contribute by joining clubs, collecting data on birds and submitting it for reports, Atlas projects, etc. Even well known national parks often lack straightforward species lists and simply requesting such information can help stimulate local awareness and action. It opens the eyes of park managers to birding as a popular pastime, leads to guides being employed to cater for visitors, and step by step, at all levels, to a new constituency

sharing a common concern about the future of birds in Africa.

For more than half of the 61 countries and island groups detailed here, you will find enough information to tap easily into the local birding community. In many others, basic structures need to be developed. Perhaps you can start a club, lead bird-walks, locate key sites, maybe even discover a new species. In Tanzania alone, recent discoveries include a sunbird, a weaver, a cisticola, and, in 1991, Udzungwa Forest Partridge *Xenoperdix udzungwensis*, which is locally common in the montane evergreen forests where it was found!

Most ornithological activity is organised at a national or local level in Africa. Every four years, however, a truly continent-wide meeting takes place, the Pan-African Ornithological Congress. Two years ago, the eighth brought people to Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi, and the ninth will be held in The Gambia in 1996. Meetings of bodies like the International Crane Foundation also occur in Africa, and its possible an International Ornithological Congress will take place on the continent before long.

Country accounts

For the purposes of adding some clarity, these accounts are organised into seven sub-continental regions, north, west, north-east, central, east, south-central and southern, plus separate sections for the islands groups in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, and Madagascar. The region covered is that of the *Africa Red Data Book*². Under each region, brief notes are provided on countries where the information available does not yet warrant a separate account.

Under the country headings, a paragraph contributes background remarks along with information, like a full number of species recorded, whether a field-type list of species has been compiled, if there is an annotated list, appropriate recent field guides, or an Atlas. Separate appendices

exist for societies, journals, museums, and for the places and people to where records should be sent.

One series of books, *Birds of Africa*, published by Academic Press, has full pan-African coverage. Three volumes^{3,4,5}, covering Non-Passerines, have been published since 1982, and the first of the Passerine volumes (Broadbills to Chats) has just appeared⁶. The classic regional works by Mackworth-Praed and Grant also remain invaluable references^{7,8,9}. A comprehensive new publication provides check-lists for all the countries south of the Sahara, so it has become a key reference for species numbers¹⁰. The nomenclature follows a sister publication, Dowsett and Forbes-Watson's new Afrotropical and Malagasy check-list¹¹ (see the news item on page six). With millions of Palaearctic birds wintering

north and south of the Sahara in Africa, European field guides, eg Lars Jonsson's excellent recent publication¹² (which includes North African and Middle-Eastern coverage), provide support for the identification of many species.

North Africa

The increasing popularity of countries on the Mediterranean fringe of Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia) means organised birding activity there is gaining momentum. Highly distinctive races of species found south of the Sahara occur, like the North African Marsh Owl *Asio capensis tingitanus*, and large flocks of waders winter on wetlands like Morocco's Merdja Zerga, alongside rarities like the Slender-billed Curlew *Numenius tenuirostris*. Field guides cover most of the

species well^{12,13} and a new one dealing with the birds of the Middle-East is also in preparation¹⁴. The Ornithological Society of the Middle East (OSME) is a focus for birders interested in countries east of Libya, and publishes a bulletin and journal, *Sandgrouse*. The **Azores** and **Madeira** are included here, but no information has been forthcoming.

Algeria

In 1981, when the most recent annotated list was published, 382 species had been recorded¹⁵. The largest country fringing the Mediterranean, it is well known for its endemic Algerian Nuthatch *Sitta ledanti*, but it is still not often visited and any information about birding there would be welcome.

Canaries

Increasingly popular with birders, a total of 316 species have been found¹⁶ and an annotated check-list is being prepared¹⁷. The islands once sheltered the Canary Black Oystercatcher *Haematopus meadewaldoi*, a species probably now extinct, with no confirmed records since 1968, despite extensive searches¹⁸.

Egypt

A total of 421 species has been recorded in Egypt¹⁹ including, recently, a new bird for the Western Palaearctic, Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris*, which is widespread and common in the Afrotropics. Birding is increasingly well organised with the national Ornithological Society of Egypt and a journal, *Courseur*, as well as annotated lists and field guides^{20,21}.

Libya

Limited work since the 1970s, but surveys have been undertaken recently, and an annotated list was published with maps for the ranges of breeding birds in 1976²² (now out of print). It recorded 317 species.

Morocco

Perhaps the best known of the North African countries, 459 species have been recorded²³ and a fully annotated list is being prepared²⁴. A guide to birding was published in 1990²⁵. Data are also being collated for an Atlas²³ and two local societies have been established, Groupe de Recherche pour la Protection des Oiseaux au Maroc and Le Groupe d'Ornithologie du Maroc Centrale (which publishes an annual report and a journal, *Porphyrio*). Conservation action underway includes intensive efforts to support remaining populations of the endangered Northern Bald Ibis *Geronticus eremita*.

Tunisia

Another country with a birders' guide²⁶, Tunisia lacks the range of habitats of Morocco (being smaller in area), but still supports a list of 353 species²⁶. There are some

spectacular wetland sites and growing interest in birds nationally with the recent creation of a society, Les Amis des Oiseaux.

West Africa

For the countries of West Africa, the West African Ornithological Society (WAOS) forms a focus, and publishes a journal, *Malimbus*, carrying both French and English papers. West Africa contains well known countries, like The Gambia, as well as virtually unknown ones, like Guinea Conakry. One rather outdated regional field guide covers the entire area²⁷, but another is in preparation²⁸.

Benin

Very little is known about the birding situation in Benin, although a first list has been compiled recently with 423 species recorded¹⁰. Any information on Benin and Burkina Faso would be welcome.

Burkina Faso

Like Benin, Burkina Faso is poorly known, although, again, a list has now been compiled, with 453 species recorded¹⁰.

Cape Verde Islands

Recent activity has seen the gathering together of all the data for the Cape Verdes and an annotated list has almost been prepared for the 143 species which have been recorded²⁹. An Atlas is also being compiled and there are hopes of establishing a conservation society, Associação Caboverdeana da História Natural, and newsletter, soon³⁰.

Ivory Coast

As one of the largest of the Upper Guinea forest countries, the Ivory Coast has received a lot of recent attention and a fully annotated list was published in 1985 covering 683 species³¹, a total which has now climbed to 694¹⁰. Ivory Coast has one of the most important conservation sites in the Upper Guinea region, Tai Forest, which contains populations of many of the area's threatened primary forest specialists, like White-breasted Guinea fowl *Agelastes meleagrides*.

Ghana

A fully annotated check-list records 721 species³² and the country total now stands at 725¹⁰. Ghana is one of the most active African countries for bird conservation, well known for efforts to control the illegal hunting of Roseate Terns *Sterna dougallii*. Wildlife clubs are thriving and there is an active national conservation group, the Ghana Wildlife Society.

Guinea Bissau

Most recent ornithological exploration has been coastal and a limited list of 319 species reflects this¹⁰. Guinea Bissau is another

country for which any information would be welcomed.

Guinea Conakry

A species list was published in 1988 recording 498 species³³, but the full total is now 552¹⁰. Further information needs to be gathered for this important country which has major inland forested areas.

Liberia

Seriously unsettled recently, Liberia is comparatively well documented ornithologically, with a field-list (now out of print) and an annotated list³⁴. A recent review of Liberian birds provides a list of 581 species¹⁰. Savanna, forest and montane habitat on and around Mount Nimba alone yielded 385 species during exploration in the early 1980s³⁵. A full revision of the country list is underway³⁶, along with an Atlas³⁷.

Mali

A comprehensive check-list was published in *Malimbus* in two parts in the early 1980s^{38,39} and a recent review lists a total of 622 for the country¹⁰. Mali covers a vast area of Sahelian and Saharan West Africa and includes much of the course of the river Niger. Its savannas are important wintering grounds for widespread Palaearctic species like Whitethroats *Sylvia communis*.

Mauritania

With spectacular wader populations wintering at sites like Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania has a coastline critical for migrant birds. An annotated list has been put together privately⁴⁰ and the country total is now thought to be 541 species¹⁰.

Niger

Like Mali, Niger stretches across a vast swath of savanna and desert, and includes some spectacular protected areas, like Air et Tenéré National Park. A recent revision of the annotated list⁴¹ reveals records for 532 species¹⁰.

Nigeria

Extensive work in Nigeria has resulted in a comprehensive annotated check-list⁴² which is being revised at present. The full country total now stands at 862 species¹⁰, a reflection of the wide range of habitats which make up this diverse country, from savannas to forests, to the Niger river delta. A wildlife organisation, the Nigerian Conservation Foundation, is increasingly active.

Senegal

Although there is no local conservation organisation, Senegal is a popular birding destination, and has been the location of intensive migration studies since 1988⁴³. An annotated list and Atlas has been published for Séné-gambia, which includes The Gambia⁴⁴, as has a field list⁴⁵ (covering 623 and

641 species respectively). A review of records brings together a total of 610 species for Senegal alone¹⁰.

Sierra Leone

Another of the important Upper Guinea countries with its once extensive forests now largely confined to Gola, Sierra Leone has a national list of 622 species⁴⁰ for which an annotated list is being prepared⁴⁶. Research is underway on threatened forest birds, including the remarkable White-necked Picathartes *Picathartes gymnocephalus*. A wildlife group, the Conservation Society of Sierra Leone, is active, especially in conservation education.

The Gambia

Perhaps the best known of West African countries, The Gambia has a rich avifauna with 530 species recorded⁴⁷, a consequence of so many habitats packed into a small area which includes canopy forest in the Abuko Nature Reserve and the Gambia River delta. There are two annotated lists^{48,49} and a third is in preparation⁴⁷, along with a new field guide which will also cover southern Senegal⁵⁰. An active national group, The Gambian Ornithological Society, exists.

Togo

An annotated list is in preparation for Togo and will cover 622 species⁵¹, although a first check-list has been recently prepared for 558 species¹⁰.

North-East Africa

Six countries (and Socotra) make up this region. With the exception of the fertile montane regions of Ethiopia and the Nile Valley, they are dominated throughout by semi-arid habitats, with predictable diversity of arid country birds, like larks. No guide exists for north-east Africa, but many species are covered in the East African guide⁵², and a new guide to the Middle-East is also in preparation¹⁴.

Chad

Little birding information has been forthcoming for Chad, despite its size and the importance with its threatened lake basin for migrants. A full check-list has recently been published listing 532 species¹⁰.

Djibouti

By far the smallest of the six countries, Djibouti lies at the mouth of the Red Sea and has a list of 342 species⁵³ including one endemic, the Djibouti Francolin *Francoelinus ochropectus*. The straits at Bab-el-Mandeb are important migration crossing points, with thousands of raptors, like eastern Common Buzzards *Buteo buteo vulpinus* and Steppe Eagles *Aquila nipalensis*, moving on passage⁵³. An annotated check-list has been published⁵⁴.

Eritrea

New life is being breathed into Eritrean conservation, still included in coverage by *Walia*, the journal of the Ethiopian Wildlife & Natural History Society. Rapid development is taking place, especially in the critically important coastal zone, and a check-list has just been published for 537 species¹⁰.

Ethiopia

A comparatively well known country with some 836 species⁵⁵, a list which includes remarkable endemics, like the Ethiopian Bush-crow *Zavattariornis stresemanni*, which make Ethiopia an increasingly popular birding destination. No field guide covers the country, although some species are covered in the East African guide⁵². An out of date annotated list⁵⁶ has been updated⁵⁷ and will be fully revised in an Atlas being compiled⁵⁵. A active national conservation group, Ethiopian Wildlife & Natural History Society, publishes a journal, *Walia*.

Socotra

Red Data Book coverage means Socotra is included here, although the island is politically attached to the Yemen. There has been a lot of ornithological activity recently, and the results of expeditions there will be published in *Sandgrouse*, the OSME journal. They have extended the current published list of 95 species¹⁰, to 110⁵⁸

Somalia

Somalia has been birded extensively and is fairly well recorded with an annotated distributive list of 650 species^{59,60} and an Atlas in preparation⁵⁵. A national conservation group, the Somali Ecological Society, is active overseas and in-country.

Sudan

A huge country which stretches from North Africa to the Uganda border and has a list of 938 species which has been prepared in an annotated Atlas form⁶¹. There is a museum in Khartoum, but no local society.

East Africa

After the south, East Africa is the best known of the six regions, with comparatively well-watched countries of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, as well as those of the Albertine Rift, Rwanda and Burundi. The diverse avifaunas are a consequence of equally diverse habitats. Two regional lists (for Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania) have been published^{62,63}, one⁶² being reviewed in the light of recent taxonomic changes. A regional society, the East Africa Natural History Society exists, and publishes a journal and bulletin. Two dated field guides are available^{52,64}, but another is being prepared⁶⁵. An excellent regional journal, *Scopus*, takes papers from all over Eastern Africa.

Burundi

Like Rwanda, Burundi is a country which supports many of the important endemic birds of the Albertine Rift mountains in a series of highland forests and marshes despite extensive conversion to agriculture and heavy pressure from people. A total of 596 species have been recorded¹⁰. Burundi successfully hosted the Pan-African Ornithological Congress in 1990.

Kenya

With 1,078 species⁶⁶, well known sites, and an excellent infrastructure, Kenya has been a popular birding location for many years. Reactivated in the last few, the Ornithology Department at the National Museum in Nairobi, along with the East Africa Natural History Society, regularly update with news through the popular magazine *Kenya Birds*, the regional journal, *Scopus*, and an annual bird report (one issue of *Scopus* each year). A comprehensive bird Atlas was published in 1989⁶⁷ and there is a field check-list available⁶⁸

Tanzania

With new species rapidly being added to its impressive country total of 1,038⁶⁹, Tanzania is an exciting prospect for any birder. A field list has been prepared⁷⁰, and there are excellent annotated site lists for Zanzibar and Pemba⁷¹ and Serengeti National Park⁷² (being updated). An active group is compiling an Atlas and a national body, the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania, produces a regular newsletter called *Miombo*.

Uganda

Landlocked Uganda has a remarkable mixture of habitats bringing a total of 992 species¹⁰ which have been compiled into a field list⁷³. An active Uganda branch of the East Africa Natural History Society provides a focus for naturalists, and data are being collected for a national Atlas⁷⁴.

Rwanda

Well known for the phenomenal success of gorilla safaris, Rwanda also has a fascinating avifauna with 666 species¹⁰. Albertine Rift endemics in the montane forests include Stripe-breasted Tit *Parus fasciiventris*, while montane marshes support rarities like Grauer's Rush Warbler *Bradypterus graueri*. A lively new society, the Association pour la Conservation de la Nature au Rwanda, publishes a newsletter, *Le Nectar*.

Central Africa

The central block of Africa is dominated by the Congo Basin and Zaire with other countries including those of the Gulf of Guinea, like Gabon and Congo. Although northerly countries, like Cameroon and Central Afri-

can Republic, have extensive important savannas, it is forest which dominates. The Gulf of Guinea islands are included here.

Cameroon

Cameroon lies at the edge of West Africa, and supports some 874 species¹⁰, which include montane forest endemics like Bannerman's Turaco *Tauraco bannermanni*, as well as a wide range of species associated with a northern fringe of savanna. An annotated list has been published⁷⁵, a national group, Cameroon Birdline, has recently been established. Sites like Mount Kupe, with its endemic Mount Kupe Bush Shrike *Malaconotus kupeensis* (see article on page 13) are attracting more and more birding groups.

Central African Republic

An annotated list has been published⁷⁶ and a recent review of publications has seen the list settle at 662 species¹⁰. Little information has been forthcoming, so any material on birding in CAR would be welcome.

Congo

When an annotated list was published in 1989, some 500 species were known⁷⁷, but a recent review has seen the Congo total climb to 569 species¹⁰. Birders are making their first forays into this well forested country and it is likely to become the subject of numerous interesting discoveries and intensifying conservation action in the near future.

Equatorial Guinea

Little information has surfaced about Equatorial Guinea although a first check-list has just been published, covering 271 species¹⁰, a total which seems likely to grow.

Gabon

Gabon has been well researched in the past and a recent review of the list records 629 species¹⁰, although a new birding guide carries 669 species for the country⁷⁸, and an annotated list is being prepared⁷⁹.

São Tomé & Príncipe

In recent years, the unique avifauna of Sao Tomé and Príncipe has been the subject of expeditions leading to the rediscovery of several species, like Sao Tomé Grosbeak *Neospiza concolor*⁸⁰, previously feared extinct. An annotated list is well advanced and will cover 121 species⁸¹.

Zaire

Despite its vast forest resources, Zaire remains something of an enigma, with ornithological research hampered by the sheer logistical problems of travelling away from the Congo river system. Some 1,094 species occur¹⁰, but nothing major has been published since the epic 1976 study of Lippens & Wille⁸². Extensive bird collec-

tions exist from Zaire in the famous Musée Royale de l'Afrique Centrale in Belgium.

South-Central Africa

Tucked in between central and south Africa, Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia stretch in a broad sweep through some of the most interesting bird country on the continent; an area which includes vast swathes of savanna, as well as important montane forests, like those on Mount Mulanje in Malawi, and wetlands, like Zambia's Bangweulu Swamps.

Angola

A bird rich country for which there are few recent data. It was well watched historically, however, and a large list of 909 species has been created¹⁰. The status of critical *Red Data Book* species, like Gabela Akalat *Sheppardia gabela*, are simply unknown, and it is likely the human tragedy unfolding there has led to severe pressure on some of the forest areas. The bulletin will carry any news received.

Malawi

Malawi has a country total of 650, soon to appear as a species list⁸³ for the present annotated list is twenty years out of date⁸⁴. An Atlas is in preparation as well⁸⁵. An active national conservation group, Wildlife Society of Malawi, exists, and two bird-orientated publications, Nyala and Vocifer, are published. Southern African bird guides cover most of the species in Malawi^{85,86,87}.

Mozambique

Despite considerable recent instability, Mozambique has been quite well watched and a list of around 690 species is awaiting publication⁸⁸. The southern field guides^{85,86,87} are best, and a new group, the Wildlife Society of Mozambique, is now active.

Zambia

Over 737 species have been recorded⁸⁹, and a dedicated national body, the Zambian Ornithological Society (ZOS), are producing an Atlas for a country which has been well documented throughout⁹⁰. Best guides are those for the southern region^{85,86,87}. The ZOS works closely with, and can be contacted via, the Wildlife Conservation Society of Zambia in Lusaka.

Southern Africa

Possibly the best known of the regions, south Africa contains six countries. Numerous initiatives are active for projects like atlasing. South Africa also has some of the best bird guides available, which include Roberts⁸⁵, Newman⁸⁶, and the newest, Sinclair *et al*⁸⁷. The area is home to a range of endemics, like Cape Rockjumper *Chaetops frenatus* and Yellow-breasted Pipit *Anthus*

chloris, as well as being by far the most important centre for floral diversity on the continent. Little information has surfaced for Swaziland.

Botswana

Comparatively uniform terrain restricts the list to 550 species¹⁰, but the country is well watched with an active society, the Botswana Bird Club, which publishes a newsletter and the journal, Babbler. Botswana possesses real jewels, like the swamps of the inland Okavango Delta, which supports the entire breeding population of the threatened Slaty Egret *Egretta vinaceigula*. Recently, a new field guide has been produced⁹¹, and an annotated check-list, along with a comprehensive Bird Atlas, are being co-ordinated by the club.

Lesotho

Landlocked and mountainous Lesotho has a list totalling 301 species⁹² and a guide to birding there has been published recently⁹³. The Lesotho Bird Atlas Project is compiling records and a conservation group exists, the Wildlife Society of Lesotho.

Namibia

Lying along the Atlantic seaboard of south-west Africa, Namibia is dominated by arid habitats, like the spectacular Etosha National Park. A total of 624 species have been recorded⁹⁴ and a check-list is available⁹⁵. Namibia also supports important seabird and wintering wader populations in places like Walvis Bay, and some endemics, like Dune Lark *Certhilauda erythrochlamys* and Carp's Tit *Parus carpi*. A national society, the Namibia Bird Club, produces a journal, Lanioturdus.

South Africa

With the most extensive system of national, regional and local clubs and societies (see appendix A), South Africa is well documented with lists⁹⁶ and field guides^{85,86,87}, as well as an extremely comprehensive atlasing project close to publishing an Atlas for southern Africa⁹⁷. If Lesotho and Swaziland are included, a total of 790 species have been recorded¹⁰. The leading bird group, the Southern African Ornithological Society, publishes a journal, *Ostrich*, as well as a popular magazine, *Birding in Southern Africa*. At the same time, many of the affiliated clubs produce newsletters and there are specialist publications for raptors, seabirds and other groups (see appendix B). The Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology is one of the leading scientific institutions in Africa, but there are several other bodies, including university departments and museums, like the Transvaal and Durban Museums, which are actively involved in ornithology. Room prevents a full description of the facilities here, but the

Southern African Ornithological Society can provide any information needed about birding in the country.

Zimbabwe

An active society, the Ornithological Society of Zimbabwe, publishes a local journal, *Honeyguide*, for this interesting and diverse southern country. A total of 648 species have been recorded¹⁰. An annotated list is now rather out of date⁹⁸, but will soon be replaced by an Atlas which is nearing completion⁹⁹. Zimbabwe also holds the largest continental collection of African birds at the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe in Bulawayo.

Atlantic Ocean

Remote islands which are rarely visited other than by professional ornithologists or yachtsmen, so only the lucky few will see endemics like the Tristan Bunting *Nesospiza acunbae*. Best guides for the majority of seabirds are still those by Tuck & Heinzel¹⁰⁰ and Harrison¹⁰¹ and records can be sent to the African Seabird Group or the Royal Navy Bird-watching Society (for publication in their journal, *Marine Ornithology*).

St. Helena Island

Notable for its peculiar plover, the St. Helena Wirebird *Charadrius sanctaehelenae* this remote island now boasts a total of 99 species, for which an annotated list is being written¹⁰².

Ascension Island

Access is controlled by permit, but an annotated list is in preparation to cover some 16 resident and 40 plus vagrant species¹⁰³. A general association exists, the Ascension Historical Society.

Tristan da Cunha Islands

Like Gough, the Tristan da Cunha group (which includes Inaccessible and Nightingale) are notable for their seabirds and rare endemic buntings. An annotated list has been published¹⁰⁴.

Gough Island

Gough is covered by the same annotated list as the Tristan group¹⁰⁴ and both these island groups are included within the range of the Southern African Ornithological Society, and the endemic birds are described in Newman⁸⁶.

Indian Ocean

Five groups of islands which, as a consequence of their remarkable endemic avifaunas, have been the subject of extensive studies¹⁰⁵. The far flung **Amsterdam Island** group are included here because of a presence in the African Red Data Book².

Comoros

Considerable logistical difficulties exist over visiting the Comoros archipelago, but extensive expedition work has yielded records of 99 species, published as an annotated list, with some illustrations, and maps¹⁰⁶. No local society exists, but there is a museum.

Mauritius (& Rodrigues)

One of the best known of the Indian Ocean islands, Mauritius has been at the forefront of attempts to resuscitate populations of rare endemics like Mauritius Kestrel *Falco punctatus*. The annotated list is rather dated¹⁰⁷, but about 100 species have been recorded¹⁰⁸ and the field guide has been updated recently¹⁰⁹. There is an active local society, the Mauntian Wildlife Appeal Fund.

Reunion

About 70 species have been recorded¹⁰⁸, but the check-list prepared in 1982 is now out of print¹¹⁰. Two societies are active, the Société Réunionnaise d'Etude et de Protection de l'Environnement (SREPEN) and an ornithological group attached to the museum, Société Réunionnaise des Amis du Muséum (Groupe Ornithologique) (SRAM), which publish Info-Nature Ile de la Réunion and Borbonica, respectively.

Seychelles Republic (including Aldabra)

The Seychelles archipelago is comparatively well-watched and yields prized species like Seychelles Magpie Robin *Copsychus sechellarum* and Seychelles Warbler *Acrocephalus sechellensis*. Birding is increasingly well organised with a species list published¹¹¹ (covering 219 species), as well as two local guides^{112,113}, and a third in preparation¹¹⁴. The Seychelles Bird Group operates from within the Nature Protection Trust of Seychelles umbrella and produces a magazine, *Birdwatch*.

Madagascar

Madagascar exists as a separate biogeographical region from which a total of 256 species has been recorded¹¹⁵. Access is improving, and a new field guide has greatly improved the data available for birders in this remarkable place¹¹⁵. It includes a list and some maps, although a separate Atlas is also being prepared. A local society, the Working Group on Birds in the Madagascar Region, publishes a newsletter.

Appendix A: Societies

All societies with their addresses, where known, are listed here by name in regional, national and local order. Please let the author know of organisations which are missing and if any of this information is incorrect.

Regional

East Africa Natural History Society (EANHS): Box 44486 Nairobi, Kenya.

Ornithological Society of the Middle East (OSME): c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL, United Kingdom.

Southern African Ornithological Society (SAOS): Box 84394 Greenside, Johannesburg 2034, South Africa.

West African Ornithological Society (WAOS): c/o 1 Fishers Heron, East Mills, Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 2JR, United Kingdom.

National

Ascension Historical Society: current address unknown.

Association pour la Conservation de la Nature au Rwanda: UNR BP 117 Butare, Rwanda.

Botswana Bird Club: Box 71 Gaborone, Botswana.

Cameroon Birdline: BP 547 Yaoundé, Cameroon.

Conservation Society of Sierra Leone: 4 Sanders Street, Box 1292 Freetown, S. Leone.

Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society: Box 60074 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Gambian Ornithological Society: Box 757 Banjul, The Gambia.

Ghana Wildlife Society: Box 13252 Accra, Ghana.

Groupe de Recherche pour la Protection des Oiseaux au Maroc: (GREPOM) 12, rue Ottawa, Quartier Océan, 10,000 Rabat, Morocco.

Le Groupe d'Ornithologie du Maroc Centrale: (GOMaC) Département de Biologie, Faculté des Sciences de Meknès, BP 4010 Beni-M-hamed, 50003 Meknès, Morocco.

Les Amis des Oiseaux: Faculté des Sciences, Campus Universitaire, 1060 Tunis Belvédère, Tunisia.

Mauritian Wildlife Appeal Fund: Tamarin, Mauritius, Indian Ocean.

Namibia Bird Club, Box 67, Windhoek 9000, Namibia.

Nature Protection Trust of Seychelles: Seychelles Bird Group, Box 207 Victoria, Seychelles.

Nigerian Conservation Foundation: Box 74638 Victoria Island, Lagos Nigeria.

Ornithological Society of Egypt: no current address.

Ornithological Society of Zimbabwe: Box 8382 Causeway, Zimbabwe.

Société Réunionnaise des Amis du Muséum (Groupe Ornithologique) (SRAM): via Mme Sonia Ribes, Conservateur, Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Rue Poivre, 97400 St-Denis, Réunion.

Société Réunionnaise d'Etude et de Protection de l'Environnement (SREPEN): BP 1109, 97482 St-Denis, Réunion.

Somali Ecological Society: c/o Dr Talib Ali, FAO Representative in Somalia, c/o FAO Representative in Kenya, Box 30470 Nairobi, Kenya.

Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania: Box 70919 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Wildlife Conservation Society of Zambia: Box 30255 Lusaka, Zambia.

Wildlife Society of Lesotho: no current address.

Wildlife Society of Malawi: Box 1429 Blantyre, Malawi.

Wildlife Society of Mozambique: c/o Ms. Milagre O.F.N. Cezerilo, Director of Forestry and Wildlife, Ministry of Agriculture, Maputo, Mozambique.

Working Group on Birds in the Madagascar Region: via Olivier Langrand, WWF Madagascar, BP 738 Antananarivo 101, Madagascar; Lucienne Wilmé, Missouri Botanical Garden, BP 3391 Antananarivo; Steve Goodman, Field Museum of Natural History, Roosevelt Road at Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60605, USA.

Zambian Ornithological Society: Box 33944 Lusaka, Zambia.

Local

Largely South African bird clubs, but we would welcome the names and addresses of other local birding groups throughout the region.

Cape Bird Club: Box 5033, Cape Town 8000, South Africa.

Lowveld Bird Club: Box 4113, Nelspruit 1200, South Africa.

Rands Barbets Bird Club: 2 Flint Road, Parkwood 2193, South Africa.

Sandton Bird Club: Box 650890, Benmore 2100, South Africa.

Witwatersrand Bird Club: Box 72091 Parkview, Johannesburg 2122, South Africa.

The **Eastern Cape Wild Bird Society**, **Goldfields Bird Club**, **Natal Bird Club**, **Natal Midlands Bird Club**, **North-eastern Bird Club**, **Northern Transvaal Ornithological Society**, **Orange Free State Ornithological Society**, **Vaal Reefs Bird Club**, **Wesvaal Bird Club** can all be contacted via the Southern African Ornithological Society, Box 84394 Greenside, Johannesburg 2034, South Africa.

Species orientated

Groups are increasingly being established which co-ordinate interest in particular families of birds. Again, the author would welcome details of any other such associations.

African Hirundine Group: Department of Ornithology, National Museum, Box 266, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa.

African Raptor Information Centre: Box 4035, Halfway House 1685, South Africa.

African Seabird Group: Box 34113, Rhodes Gift 7707, South Africa.

Southern African Crane Foundation: Box 2310, Durban 4000, South Africa.

Vulture Study Group: The Endangered Wildlife Trust, Box 72334, Parkview 2122, South Africa.

Appendix B: Journals and newsletters

Journals are listed in alphabetical order with, where possible, the date of first appearance, the number of issues per year, the organisation responsible for publication, and the editor's name. Most are produced by the societies already listed above. Please note this list is largely confined to publications emanating from Africa or which publish mainly on African birds. Many others, like the *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club*, also regularly carry relevant papers.

We urge authors, where possible, to publish their observations and results in regional journals, so facilitating access for African ornithologists, or, failing that, to submit papers to an abstract service the British Ornithologists' Union runs in association with their journal, *Ibis*. Contributions should be sent to the Editor, Recent Ornithological Literature, Edward Grey Institute of Field Ornithology, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PS, United Kingdom.

Albatross unknown-present. Newsletter of the Natal Bird Club. Editor: Phillip de Moor, Box 2866, Durban 4000, South Africa.

Babbler 1981-present. Published twice a year by the Botswana Bird Club. Editor: Dr Marc Herremans, Box 71 Gaborone, Botswana.

Bird Numbers 1993-present. A newsletter recently started by the group responsible for atlasing in southern Africa. Editor: James Harrison, Avian Demography Unit, Department of Statistical Science, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa.

Birding in Southern Africa 1948-present (formerly *Bokmakierie*). Published quarterly by the Southern African Ornithological Society (in its new form since 1989). Editor: Gordon Bennett, c/o Southern African Ornithological Society (address above).

Birdwatch 1992-present. Newsletter of the Seychelles Bird Group. Editor: Ron Gerlach, Box 207 Victoria, Seychelles.

Borbonica unknown-present. Published by the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Rue Poivre, 97400 St-Denis, Réunion. Editor: unknown.

Courser 1984-present. Published occasionally by the Ornithological Society of Egypt. Editor: unknown.

East Africa Natural History Society Bulletin: unknown-present. Published quarterly from Nairobi, but covering Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Editor: c/o the society (address above).

Gabar 1986-present. Published biannually as an African raptor biology journal by the African Raptor Information Centre. Editors: David Allan & Andrew Jenkins, c/o Avian Demography Unit (see *Bird Numbers* for address; see also *Quill*).

Gyps Snips see *Vulture News*.

Hirundo 1988-present. Biannual newsletter for people interested in the Hirundinidae. Editor: Roy Earle, Department of Ornithology, National Museum, Box 266, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa.

Hoep Hoep 1990-present. Published quarterly as the newsletter of the Wesvaal Bird Club. Editor: The Editor Hoep Hoep, Wesvaal Bird Club, c/o Southern African Ornithological Society (address above).

Honeyguide 1962-present (formerly *Bulletin of the Rhodesian Ornithological Society*). Published quarterly by the Ornithological Society of Zimbabwe. Editor: c/o the society (see above).

Info-Nature Ile de la Réunion: unknown-present. Published by the Société Réunionnaise d'Etude et de Protection de l'Environnement (SREPEN), BP 1109, 97482 St-Denis, Réunion. Editor: unknown.

Journal of the East Africa Natural History Society: unknown-present. Published periodically on a wide range of natural history subjects and covers Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Editor: c/o the society (address above).

Kenya Birds 1992-present (formerly *Avifauna News*). Published biannually by the Ornithology Department at the National Museums of Kenya and BirdLife Kenya. Editors: Dr Leon Bennun, Cecilia Gichuki & John Fanshawe, Department of Ornithology, National Museums of Kenya, Box 40658 Nairobi, Kenya.

Koedoe 1958-present. Published biannually as the research journal of the National Parks in South Africa. Editor: Mr J.C. Rautenbach, National Parks Board, Box 787, Pretoria 0001, South Africa.

Laniarius unknown-present. Newsletter of the Northern Transvaal Ornithological Society. Published occasionally by the Editorial Committee, Box 4158, Pretoria 0001, South Africa.

Lanioturdus 1965-present. Published occasionally (usually twice a year) as the Newsletter of the Namibia Bird Club. Editor: Joris Komen, Department of Birds, The State Museum of Namibia, Box 1203 Windhoek, Namibia.

Le Nectar 1993-present. Published by the Association pour la Conservation de la Nature au Rwanda. Editor: Dr Sam Kanyamibwa, UNR BP 117 Butare, Rwanda.

Malimbus 1979-present (from 1964-1978 was *Bulletin of the Nigerian Ornithologists' Society*). Regional journal for Western Africa published biannually by the West African Ornithological Society. Editor: Dr Alan Tye, Box 1 Amani, Tanga, Tanzania.

Madoqua 1969-present. Madoqua is published biannually by the Namibian Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism as a journal of arid zone biology and nature conservation research. Editor: Dr Chris Brown, Ministry of Wildlife, Conservation and Tourism, Private Bag 13306 Windhoek, Namibia.

Marine Ornithology 1976-present (formerly *The Cormorant*). Published biannually as the bulletin of the African Seabird Group. Editor: Dr John Cooper, Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa.

Miombo 1987-present. Newsletter of the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania. Editor: to society (address above).

Mirafra 1984-present. Published quarterly as the Newsletter of the Orange Free State Ornithological Society. Editor: Mr R.J. Nuttall, National Museum, Box 266, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa.

Nyala 1975-present. Published biannually by the Wildlife Society of Malawi. Editor: Dr C.O. Dudley, The Museums of Malawi, Box 30360 Blantyre, Malawi.

OSME Bulletin 1980-present. Published biannually by the Ornithological Society of the Middle East. Editor: The Bulletin Editor, OSME (see *Sandgrouse*).

Ostrich 1930-present. Regional journal for Southern Africa published quarterly by the Southern African Ornithological Society. Editor: Dr A.J.F.K. Craig, Department of Zoology, Rhodes University, Grahamstown 6140, South Africa.

Porphyrio 1988-present. Published annually by Le Groupe d'Ornithologie du Maroc Centrale (GOMaC). Editor: unknown.

Proceedings of the Mauritius Royal Society of Arts and Sciences: unknown-present. Published irregularly by the society. Editor: unknown.

Promerops unknown-present. Published five times a year by the Cape Bird Club. Editor: Jo Hobbs, Box 5022, Cape Town 8000, South Africa.

Quill 1992-present. Published as an occasional newsletter of the African Raptor Information Centre (see under *Gabar*).

SAFRING News 1972-present. Published biannually by the Southern African Bird Ringing Unit. Editor: Mr T.B. Oakley, University of Cape Town, Private Bag, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa.

Sandgrouse 1980-present. Published biannually by the Ornithological Society of the Middle East. Editor: Duncan Brooks, OSME, c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL, United Kingdom.

Scopus 1977-present. Regional journal for Eastern Africa published twice a year (with a third issue forming the East African Bird Report) by the Ornithological Sub-committee of the East Africa Natural History Society. Editor: Graeme Backhurst, Box 15914 Nairobi, Kenya.

Southern Birds 1975-present (formerly *Southern African Avifauna Series 1961-1972*). Publishes annotated check-lists of birds of Africa south of the Cunene and Zambezi rivers and is produced by the Witwatersrand Bird Club. Editor: Dr C.J. Vernon, Southern Birds, Box 650284, Benmore 2010, South Africa.

Tauraco 1989-present. Published twice a year by the Tauraco Press as a Journal of African Ornithology. *Tauraco* also publishes separate research reports. Editor: Mr R.J. Dowsett, c/o Projé ECOFAC, BP 62 Brazzaville, Congo.

The Bee-eater 1950-present. Published annually by the Eastern Cape Wild Bird Society. Editor: Dr Paul Martin, Box 27454 Greenacres, 6057 Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

The Cormorant see *Marine Ornithology*.

The Hornbill 1985-present. Newsletter of the Lowveld Bird Club. Editor: Peter Lawson, Box 507, Nelspruit 1200, South Africa.

Vocifer 1986-present. Newsletter published twice a year for Malawi by the editor. Editor: Mr R.D. Medland, Box 30370, Lilongwe 3, Malawi.

Vulture News 1979-present. Published by the Vulture Study Group. Editor: Steven Piper, 2 Canal Drive, Westville 3630, South Africa. The group also publishes a newsletter called *Gyps Snips*.

Walia 1969-present. Published annually by the Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society. Editors: Sue Edwards & John Atkins, Box 60074 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

WBC News unknown-present. Newsletter published quarterly by the Witwatersrand Bird Club. Editor: John McAllister, Box 72091, Parkview 2122, South Africa.

Working Group on Birds in the Madagascar Region Newsletter: Published occasionally by the WGBMR. Editors: Olivier Langrand, Lucienne Wilmé & Steve Goodman, c/o WWF Madagascar, BP 738, Antananarivo 101, Madagascar.

Appendix C: Museums

African museums with bird skin collections form an integral part of the ornithological fabric as centres of research and training. Again, the author would welcome up-to-date information on institutions listed here and on those that must be missing. This list does not take account of the large collections of African material which are held outside the continent, such as at the Field Museum in Chicago in the United States, the Sub-department of Ornithology at the Natural History Museum at Tring in the United Kingdom and the Musée Royale de l'Afrique Centrale at Tervuren in Belgium. Future articles in the bulletin may deal with these important collections.

Cameroon: University of Yaoundé, Yaoundé, Cameroon.

Comores: Centre National de Documentation et de Recherche Scientifique (CNDRS), (Musée National des Comores), Moroni, République Fédérale Islamique des Comores.

Ethiopia: Natural History Museum, Faculty of Science, University of Addis Ababa, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Kenya: Department of Ornithology, National Museums of Kenya, Box 40658 Nairobi, Kenya. Head: Dr Leon A. Bennun.

Liberia: University of Liberia, Monrovia, Liberia.

Madagascar: Musée de l'Académie Malgache, Parc Zoologique et Botanique de Tzimbazaza, BP 4096, Antananarivo 101, Madagascar.

Malawi: The Museums of Malawi, Box 30360 Blantyre, Malawi.

Mauritius: The Mauritius Institute, La Chaussée, Port Louis, Mauritius.

Mozambique: Natural History Museum of Mozambique, Maputo. Director: Dr Augusto Cabral.

Namibia: Department of Birds, The State Museum of Namibia, Box 1203 Windhoek, Namibia.

Réunion: Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Rue Poivre, 97400 St-Denis, Réunion.

Seychelles: The National Archives, Victoria, Seychelles.

South Africa: Durban Natural Science Museum, Box 4085, Durban 4000, South Africa.

South Africa: Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa.

Tanzania: Arusha Museum: address unknown.

Uganda: The Zoology Museum, Department of Zoology, Makerere University, Box 10066 Kampala, Uganda. Curator: Robert Kityo.

Zimbabwe: The Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe, Box 240 Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Curator of Birds: Dr Kit Hustler.

Appendix D: Records

For 37 of the countries and island groups listed under the accounts, either a person or an institution, and in some countries more than one, has been listed as willing to receive records. In some cases, an annotated list is being compiled, the Cape Verde Islands for example, but in others, like Kenya and South Africa, a well established system of recording and reporting exists. The submission and accurate scrutiny of records underpins every aspect of successful bird research and conservation. There are active rarities committees in some areas (eg the Seychelles), but in many, no central point for the submission of records exists.

Where that is the case, records can be sent to the regional societies, eg the East Africa Natural History Society (Ornithological Sub-committee). The *Bulletin* will publish changes to this list in the light of comments received after publication and keep people abreast of those responsible for collating records for any country. Again, please let the author know of any information which can improve on the list below, especially where there are no potential recipients of records in-country. The appearance of a complete set of country checklists from the Tauraco Press¹⁰ has gone a long way to providing a baseline from which to build future record assessment.

If you have records to submit, please do send them to the relevant people. Your observations can make a real difference to what is known about birds around the continent.

Ascension Island: Dr K.E.L. Simmons, c/o The Administrative Secretary, British Ornithologists' Union, The Natural History Museum, Sub-department of Ornithology, Tring, Herts HP23 6AP, United Kingdom.

Botswana: Botswana Bird Club, Box 71 Gaborone, Botswana.

Burundi: Dr Jean Pierre Vande Weghe, BP 2900 Bujumbura, Burundi.

Canary Islands: Tony Clarke, Republica Dominica No 61, Barrio de Fatima, 38500 Guimar, Tenerife, Islas Canarias, Spain & Juan Antonio Lorenzo, La Laguna University, Tenerife, Islas Canarias, Spain.

Cape Verde Islands: Dr C.J. Hazevoet, Instituut voor Systematiek en Populatiebiologie (Zoölogisch Museum), Mauritskade 61, Postbus 94766, 1090 GT Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Comores: Dr Michel Louette, Musée Royale de l'Afrique Centrale, B-3080 Tervuren, Belgium.

Congo: Mr R.J. Dowsett, c/o Projét ECOFAC, B.P. 62 Brazzaville, Congo.

Djibouti: Geoff Welch, Minsmere Reserve, Westleton, Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 3BY, United Kingdom.

Egypt: Sherif Baha el Din, The Business Center, Cairo Marriott Hotel, Box 33 Zomalik, Cairo, Egypt.

Eritrea: Dr Chris Hillman, Assistant Head of Research, Ministry of Marine Resources, Box 923 Asmara, Eritrea

Ethiopia: Dr John Ash, Paysanne, Godshill Wood, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, United Kingdom & John Atkins, FCO (Addis Ababa), King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH, United Kingdom.

Gabon: Patrice Christy, BP 2240 Libreville, Gabon & Dave Sargeant, 34 Pine Walk Weybourne, Holt, Norfolk NR25 7HJ, United Kingdom.

Kenya: Don Turner, EANHS Ornithological Sub-committee, Box 48019 Nairobi, Kenya.

Lesotho: Dr David Ambrose, National University of Lesotho, PO Roma 180, Lesotho.

Liberia: Dr Wulf Gatter, Buchsstraße 20, D-73252 Lenningen 1, Germany.

Madagascar: Olivier Langrand, WWF Madagascar, BP 738 Antananarivo 101, Madagascar.

Malawi: records to Mr R.D. Medland, Box 30370, Lilongwe 3, Malawi; rarity reports to Mrs D. Hamner, Mitsasa, Box 3076 Paulington, Mutare, Zimbabwe.

Mauritius: Mauritian Wildlife Appeal Fund, Tamarin, Mauritius, Indian Ocean.

Morocco: records to Dr Jacques Franchimont (GOMaC), Département de Biologie, Faculté des Sciences, BP 4010 Béné-M'hamed, 50003 Meknès, Morocco, & Dr Mohammed Dakki (GREPOM), 12 rue Otawa, Quartier Océan, 10,000 Rabat, Morocco; rarities to Dr Michel Thévenot,

Biogéographie et Écologie des Vertébrés, EPHE case 94, Université de Montpellier 2, F-34095 Montpellier Cedex 5, France.

Mozambique: Dr Heimo Mikkola, FAO Representative for Malawi, Box 30750, Lilongwe 3, Malawi.

Namibia: The Ornithologist, Ministry of Wildlife, Conservation and Tourism, Private Bag 13306 Windhoek, Namibia.

Nigeria: John Elgood, 16 The Anchorage, 157 Mudeford, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 4AG, United Kingdom.

Réunion: Société Réunionnais des Amis du Muséum (Groupe Ornithologique) & Société Réunionnais d'Etude et de Protection de l'Environnement, via Mme Sonia Ribes, Conservateur, Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Rue Poivre, 97400 St-Denis, Réunion.

Rwanda: Dr Sam Kanyambwa, UNR BP 117 Butare, Rwanda.

St. Helena: Commander M.B. Casement, Dene Cottage, West Harting, Petersfield, Hants GU31 5PA, United Kingdom.

Sao Tomé & Principe: Dr Peter Jones, ICAPB (Zoology Building), The King's Building, Edinburgh EH9 3JT, United Kingdom.

Seychelles: Adrian Skerrett, Secretary, Seychelles Bird Records Committee, Box 336 Victoria, Mahé, Seychelles.

Sierra Leone: Conservation Society of Sierra Leone (address above) & Geoffrey D. Field, 37 Milton Grove, New Milton, Hampshire BH25 6HB, United Kingdom.

Socotra: Guy Kirwan, OSME, c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL, United Kingdom.

Somalia: Dr John Ash, Paysanne, Godshill Wood, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, United Kingdom.

South Africa: Dr Phil Hockey, Chairman, Southern African Rarities Committee, Southern African Ornithological Society, Box 84394 Greenside, Johannesburg 2034, South Africa.

Sudan: Gerhard Nikolaus, Bossenbüttel 4, D-27637 Spieka, Germany.

Tanzania: Tanzania Bird Atlas Project, Box 23404 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The Gambia: Gambian Ornithological Society, Box 757 Banjul, The Gambia.

Uganda: Dr Derek Pomeroy, Institute of Environment and Natural Resources, Makerere University, Box 10066 Kampala, Uganda.

Zambia: Zambian Ornithological Society, Box 33944 Lusaka, Zambia.

Zimbabwe: records to Tony Tree, Chirawoo Farm, Box 61 Darwendale, Zimbabwe; rarities to Dr Kit Hustler, Department of Ornithology, Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe, Box 240 Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the people who updated information on which this article is based, especially: Gary Allport, David Ambrose, John Ash, John Atkins, Dylan Aspinwall, Neil & Liz Baker, Leon Bennun, Kurt Bonde, Chris Brown, Sherif Baha El Din, Bob Cheke, Tony Clarke, Ian Davidson, Richard Dean, John Elgood, Geoff Field, Lincoln Fishpool, George Frame, Mike Fraser, Wulf Gatter, Llewelyn Grimes, James Harrison, Frank Hawkins, Kees Hazevoet, Chris Hillman, Kit Hustler, Peter Jones, Sam Kanyambwa, Peter Lack, Michel Louette, Rod Martins, Bob Medland, Heimo Mikkola, Gerard Morel, Gerhard Nikolaus, David Pearson, Derek Pomeroy, Richard Porter, Iain Robertson, Beau Rowlands, Steve Rumsey, Peter Ryan, Roger Safford, Dave Sargeant, Christina Schels, Ken Simmons, Adrian Skerrett, Terry Stevenson, Michel Thévenot, Jean Pierre Vande Weghe, Rae Vernon, Tim Wacher, Richard Webb, Geoff & Hilary Welch, and Trevor Wilson. ☺

References

- Dinesen, L., Lehmborg, T., Svendsen, J.-O., Hansen L.A. & Fjeldså, J. 1994. A new genus and species of perdicine bird (Phasianidae, Perdix) from Tanzania: a relict form with Indo-Malayan affinities. *Ibis* 136 (1): 3-11.
- Collar, N.J. & Stuart, S.N. 1988. *Threatened Birds of Africa and Related Islands*. Cambridge: International Council for Bird Preservation.
- Brown, L.H., Urban, E.K. & Newman, K.B. (Eds.) 1982. *The Birds of Africa. Volume 1: Ostriches-Birds of Prey*. London: Academic Press.
- Urban, E.K., Fry, C.H., & Keith, S. (Eds.) 1986. *The Birds of Africa. Volume 2: Gamebirds to Pigeons*. London: Academic Press.
- Fry, C.H., Keith, S. & Urban, E. (Eds.) 1988. *The Birds of Africa. Volume 3: Parrots to Woodpeckers*. London: Academic Press.
- Keith, S. Urban, E.K. & Fry, C.H. (Eds.) 1992. *The Birds of Africa. Volume 4: Broadbills to Chats*. London: Academic Press.
- Mackworth-Praed, C.W. & Grant, C.H.B. 1957, 1960. *Birds of Eastern and North-eastern Africa*. Volumes 1 & 2. 2nd ed. London: Longman.
- Mackworth-Praed, C.W. & Grant, C.H.B. 1962, 1963. *Birds of the Southern Third of Africa*. Volumes 1 & 2. London: Longman.
- Mackworth-Praed, C.W. & Grant, C.H.B. 1970, 1973. *Birds of West-central and Western Africa*. Volumes 1 & 2. London: Longman.
- Dowsett, R.J. (Ed.) 1993. Afrotropical avifaunas: annotated country checklists. *Tauraco Research Report* 5: 1-320.
- Dowsett, R.J. & Forbes-Watson, A.D. 1993. *Checklist of birds of the Afrotropical and Malagasy regions. Vol 1. Species limits and distribution*. Liège, Belgium: Tauraco Press.
- Jonsson, L. 1992. *Birds of Europe with North Africa and the Middle East*. London: Christopher Helm.
- Hollom, P.A.D., Porter, R.F., Christensen, S. & Willis, I. 1988. *Birds of the Middle East & North Africa*. Calton: Poysner.
- Christensen, S., Porter, R.F. & Schiermacker-Hansen, P. in prep. *A Field Guide to the Birds of the Middle-East*. London: T & AD Poysner.
- Ledant, J-P., Jacob, J-P., Jacobs, P., Malhler, F. Ochando, B. & Roché, J. 1981. Mise à jour de l'avifaune Algérienne. *Le Gerfaut* 71: 295-398.
- T. Clarke, in litt.
- Emmerson, K.W. & Martín, A. in prep. *Birds of the Canary Islands*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- Collar, N.J. & Andrew, P. 1988. *Birds to Watch: the ICBP World Check-list of Threatened Birds*. International Council for Bird Preservation, Technical Publication No 8. Cambridge: ICBP.
- S. Baha El Din, in litt.
- Brunn, B. & Baha El Din, S. 1985. *Common Birds of Egypt*. Cairo: AUC Press.
- Goodman, S.M. & Meininger, P.L. (Eds.) 1989. *Birds of Egypt*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bundy, G. 1976. *The Birds of Libya. BOU Check-list No 1*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- M. Thévenot, in litt.
- Thévenot, M., Vernon, R., Beaubrun, P.C. & Bergier, P. in prep. *The Birds of Morocco*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- Bergier, P. & Bergier, F. 1990. *A Birdwatchers' Guide to Morocco*. Huntingdon, U.K.: Prion Birdwatchers' Guides.
- Thomson, P. & Jacobsen, P. 1979. *The Birds of Tunisia: an annotated checklist and a field guide to bird-watching*. Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Serle, W. & Morel, G.J. 1977. *A Field Guide to the Birds of West Africa*. London: Collins.
- Robertson, I.S., Demey, R. & Borrow, N. in prep. *The Birds of West Africa - An Identification Guide*.
- Hazevoet, C.J. in prep. *The Birds of the Cape Verde Islands*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- C.J. Hazevoet, in litt.
- Thiollay, J.M. 1985. The Birds of Ivory Coast. *Malimbus* 7: 1-59.
- Grimes, L.G. 1987. *The Birds of Ghana. BOU Check-list No. 9*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- Morel, G.S. & Morel, M.Y. 1988. Liste des oiseaux de Guinée. *Malimbus* 10: 143-176.
- Gatter, W. 1988. The Birds of Liberia, West Africa. A preliminary list. *Verh. orn. Ges. Bayern* 24: 689-723.
- Colston, P.R. & Curry-Lindahl, K. 1986. *The Birds of Mount Nimba, Liberia*. Brit. Museum Public. Nr. 982. London: British Museum.
- Gatter, W. in prep. *The Birds of Liberia*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- W. Gatter, in litt.
- Lamarche, B. 1980. Liste communautés des Oiseaux du Mali: part 1 Non-passerines. *Malimbus* 2: 121-158.
- Lamarche, B. 1981. Liste communautés des Oiseaux du Mali: part 2 passerines. *Malimbus* 3: 73-102.
- Lamarche, B. 1988. *Liste commentée des Oiseaux de Mauritanie. Etudes Sabariennes Ouest-Africaines*. 1,4 & Spécial. Nouakchott & Paris: Private Printing.
- Giraudoux, P., Degauquier, R., Jones, P.J., Weigel, J., Isenmann, P. 1986. Air faune du Niger: état des connaissances en 1986. *Malimbus* 10: 1-143.
- Elgood, J.H. 1981. *The Birds of Nigeria. BOU Check-list No. 4*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- S.J.R. Rumsey, in litt.
- Morel, G.J. & Morel, M.Y. 1990. Les Oiseaux de Sénégal. Paris: ORSTOM.
- Rumsey, S.J.R. & Rodwell, S.P. 1992. *A Field Check-list for the Birds of Senegambia*. The Wetland Trust.
- Field, G.D. in prep. *The Birds of Sierra Leone*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- T. Wacher, in litt.
- Jensen, J.V. & Kirkeby, K. 1980. *The Birds of The Gambia*. Aarhus: Aros Nature Guides.
- Gore, M.E.J. 1990. *Birds of The Gambia: an annotated check-list. 2nd edition. BOU Check-list No. 3*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
- Barlow, C., Disley, A., & Wacher, T. in prep. *A Field Guide to the Birds of The Gambia and southern Senegal*.
- Cheke, R. & Walsh, F. in prep. *The Birds of Togo*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.

52. Williams, J.G. & Arlott, N. 1980. *A Field Guide to the Birds of East Africa*. London: Collins.
53. G. Welch, in litt.
54. Laurent, A. 1990. *Catalogue commenté des oiseaux de Djibouti*. Djibouti: Office Nat. Tourisme.
55. J.S. Ash, in litt.
56. Urban, E. & Brown, L. 1971. *A Check-list of the Birds of Ethiopia*. Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Haile Sellassie I University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
57. Hillman, J.C. 1993. *Ethiopia: Compendium of Wildlife Conservation, Volume 1: Wildlife Conservation in Ethiopia*. New York Zoological Society - The Wildlife Conservation Society International and the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Organisation.
58. R. Porter, in litt.
59. Ash, J.S. & Miskell, J.E. *Birds of Somalia: their habitat, status and distribution*. Scopus Special Supplement No. 1. Nairobi: EANHS.
60. Ash, J.S. 1993. Changes to the Somalia check-list. *Scopus* 17: 26-31.
61. Nikolaus, G. 1987. Distribution Atlas of Sudan's Birds with notes on habitat and status. *Bonner zool. monogr.* 25: 1-322.
62. Britton, P.L. (ed.) 1980. *Birds of East Africa*. Nairobi: EANHS.
63. Short, L.L., Home, J.F.M. & Muringo-Gichuki, C. 1990. Annotated check-list of the birds of East Africa. *Proceedings of the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology* 4: 61-246.
64. Guggisberg, C.A.W. *Birds of East Africa. 1988. 2 vols. Non-Passerines & Passerines*. Nairobi: Mt. Kenya Sundries Ltd.
65. Zimmerman, D.A., Turner, D.A. & Pearson, D.J. in prep. *A Field Guide to the Birds of Kenya and Northern Tanzania*.
66. L.A. Bennun, in litt.
67. Lewis, A.D. & Pomeroy, D. 1989. *A Bird Atlas of Kenya*. Rotterdam: Balkema.
68. Backhurst, G.C. (Compiler). 1986. *Check-list of the Birds of Kenya*. Second Edition. Nairobi: EANHS.
69. N. Baker, in litt.
70. Backhurst, G.C. (Compiler). 1982. *Check-list of the Birds of Tanzania*. Nairobi: EANHS.
71. Pakenham, R.H.W. 1979. *The Birds of Zanzibar and Pemba. BOU Check-list No. 2*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
72. Schimdl, D. 1982. *The Birds of the Serengeti National Park. BOU Check-list No. 6*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
73. Carswell, M. & Pomeroy, D.E. 1984. *A Check-list of the Birds of Uganda*. Nairobi: EANHS.
74. D.E. Pomeroy, in litt.
75. Louette, M. 1981. The Birds of Cameroon, an Annotated Check-list, Palais der Academicien, Brussel. Verh. Kon. Acad. Wet. Lett. sch. Kun. Belgie. *Wetenschappen* 43 No. 163.
76. Carroll, R.W. 1988. Birds of the Central African Republic. *Malimbus* 10: 177-200.
77. Dowsett, R.J. & Dowsett-Lemaire, F. 1989. Liste préliminaire des oiseaux du Congo. *Tauraco Res. Rep.* 2: 29-51.
78. Sargeant, D.E. 1993. *A Birder's Guide to Gabon, West Africa*. Privately Published.
79. D.E. Sargeant, in litt.
80. Sargeant, D.E., Gullick, T., Turner, D.A. & Sinclair, J.C. 1992. The rediscovery of the São Tomé Grosbeak *Neospiza concolor* in south-western São Tomé. *Bird Conserv. International* 2: 157-159.
81. Jones, P.J. & Tye, A. in prep. *The Birds of São Tomé & Príncipe*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
82. Lippens, L. & Wille, H. 1976. *Les Oiseaux de Zaïre*. Belgium: Edition Lanoo Tiel.
83. R.D. Medland, in litt.
84. Benson, C.W. & Benson, F.M. 1977. *The Birds of Malawi*. Limbe, Malawi: Montfort Press.
85. Maclean, G.L. 1985. *Roberts' Birds of Southern Africa*. Cape Town: John Voelcker Book Fund.
86. Newman, K. 1991. *Birds of Southern Africa. 1991 update*. London: Collins.
87. Sinclair, I., Hockey, P., Tarboton, W., Hayman, P. & Arlott, N. 1993. *Illustrated Guide to the Birds of Southern Africa*. London: New Holland.
88. Mikkola, H. in prep. *Check-list of Mozambican birds*.
89. Zambian Ornithological Society. 1989. *Species Record Card*. Lusaka, Zambia: Zambian Ornithological Society.
90. D. Aspinwall, in litt.
91. Newman, K. 1991. *The Birds of Botswana*. London: Collins.
92. D.P. Ambrose, in litt.
93. Bonde, K. 1993. *Birds of Lesotho: a guide to distribution past and present*. Pietermaritzburg: University of Natal Press.
94. C.J. Brown, in litt.
95. Williams, A.J. 1988. *Popular Check-list of the Birds of South West Africa/Namibia*. Windhoek: Department of Agriculture and Nature Conservation.
96. Clancey, P.A. ed. 1980. *Check-list of Southern African Birds*. Southern African Ornithological Society. Pretoria: SAOS.
97. J. Harrison, in litt.
98. Irwin, M.P.S. 1981. *Birds of Zimbabwe*. Salisbury: Quest.
99. K. Hustler, in litt.
100. Tuck, G.M. & Heinzel, H. 1978. *A Field Guide to the Seabirds of Britain and the World*. London: Collins.
101. Harrison, P. 1985. *Seabirds: an identification guide*. Revised Edition. London: Croom Helm.
102. Rowlands, B.W., Trueman, T., Olson, S.L., McCulloch, M.N. & Brooke, R.K. in prep. *The Birds of St. Helena*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
103. Simmons, K.E.L. in prep. *The Birds of Ascension Island*. London: British Ornithologists' Union.
104. Richardson, M. 1984. Aspects of the ornithology of the Tristan da Cunha Group and Gough Island. *Cormorant* 112: 122-201.
105. Diamond, A.W. Ed. 1987. *Studies of Mascarene Island birds*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
106. Louette, M. 1988. Les Oiseaux des Comores. *Annales Serie in-8 - Sciences Zoologiques*. No 255, Musée Royal de L'Afrique Centrale Tervuren, Belgique.
107. Staub, F. 1976. *Birds of the Mascarenes & St. Brandon*. Port Louis, Mauritius: Organisation Normale des Entreprises Ltée.
108. R. Safford, in litt.
109. Michel, C. 1992. *Birds of Mauritius*. New Edition. Rose Hill, Mauritius: Editions de l'Océan Indien.
110. Barré, N. & Barau, A. 1982. *Oiseaux de la Réunion*. St. Denis, Réunion: Arts Graphique Modernes.
111. Skerrett, A. & Bullock, I. 1992. *A Birdwatchers' Guide to the Seychelles*. Huntingdon, U.K.: Prion Birdwatchers' Guides.
112. Penny, M. 1974. *The Birds of the Seychelles and the Outlying Islands*. London: Collins.
113. Bullock, I. 1990. *Birds of the Republic of Seychelles*. International Council for Bird Preservation, Lucas Graphics Ltd.
114. Skerrett, A. & Bullock, I. in prep. *A Guide to the Birds of the Seychelles*.
115. Langrand, O. 1990. *Guide to the Birds of Madagascar*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press.

c/o BirdLife International,
Wellbrook Court, Girton Road,
Cambridge CB3 0NA.